

2 (Amended). An isolated and purified DNA fragment according to claim 1 wherein, F1 capsular antigen of *Y. pestis* is fused at its carboxyl [terminal] terminus to amino [acid] terminus of V antigen of *Yersinia pestis*.

B1
cont

3 (Amended). An isolated and purified DNA fragment according to claim 2, wherein said fragment has the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 [or a portion thereof], or [an allelic portion] a natural or synthetic variant thereof.

5 (Amended). The F1-V DNA fragment according to claim [4] 3, wherein said DNA fragment encodes [the] an amino acid sequence [according] specified in [to] SEQ ID NO:2 [or a portion thereof] or a natural or synthetic variant encoding F1 and V antigens.

B2
Sub C2

7 (Amended). A recombinant DNA construct comprising:

B3
(i) a vector, and
(ii) an isolated and purified F1-V DNA fragment which encodes all [or a portion] of F1 capsular antigen of *Yersinia pestis* and all [or a portion] of V antigen of *Yersinia pestis*.

B4
13 (Amended). A host cell transformed with a recombinant DNA construct comprising:

*By
W/T*

(i) a vector, and
(ii) a F1-V DNA fragment which encodes [521
amino acids of F1-V which encodes] all [or a portion of] F1
capsular antigen of *Yersinia pestis* and all [or a portion] of
V antigen of *Yersinia pestis*..

B5

17 (Amended). A method for producing F1-V protein
which comprises culturing host cells transformed with an
expression vector containing a DNA fragment encoding all [or
a portion] of F1 capsular protein of *Yersinia pestis* and all
[or a portion] of V antigen of *Yersinia pestis*, under
conditions such that said DNA fragment is expressed and said
F1-V protein is thereby produced, and isolating said F1-V
protein.

Kindly add the following new claims.

Sub E

B6

--31. An isolated and purified DNA fragment comprising a
Yersinia pestis F1 capsular antigen fused at its carboxyl
terminus to an amino terminus of a V antigen from other
Yersinia species having a V antigen homologous to *Yersinia*
pestis V antigen.

32. The isolated and purified DNA fragment according to
claim 31, wherein said other *Yersinia* species are chosen from
the group consisting essentially of *Yersinia*
pseudotuberculosis and *Yersinia enterocolitica*--